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IFAD

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Executive Board – Eighty-Fifth Session

Rome, 6-8 September 2005

**COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN IFAD AND
THE ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

1. At its Eighty-Third Session in December 2004, the Executive Board authorized the President to negotiate and sign a cooperation agreement between IFAD and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and requested that the text of the agreement, as negotiated and signed, be submitted to it for information at a subsequent session.
2. In accordance with the Board's request, a conformed copy of the above-mentioned cooperation agreement, which was signed on 28 July 2005, is attached.

COOPERATION AGREEMENT

between the

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (“IFAD”)

and the

ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (“OECD”)

Dated 28 July 2005

COOPERATION AGREEMENT

COOPERATION AGREEMENT dated 28 July 2005 between the INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (“IFAD”) and the ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (“OECD”).

WHEREAS IFAD is a financial institution established for the purpose of mobilizing financial resources and making them available on favourable conditions to its developing Member States with a view to pursuing sustainable agricultural development, fighting hunger, malnutrition and rural poverty in the most disadvantaged regions, and raising the standard of living of the poorest of the poor, principally by enhancing the food security of households and promoting income-generating activities, the socio-economic advancement of women and environmental conservation;

WHEREAS the OECD brings together 30 Member countries in an organization that, first and foremost, offers governments a forum for examining, formulating and refining economic and social policies;

WHEREAS the Parties share a similar vision of the strategies to be pursued in order to enhance sectoral public policy in furtherance of sustainable development;

WHEREAS the Parties wish to establish a general framework of cooperation so as to pursue common objectives; and

WHEREAS the OECD includes bodies specifically concerned with development, such as the Sahel and West Africa Club (SWAC), the Development Centre, and the Development Assistance Committee (DAC);

THEREFORE, IFAD, represented herein by its President, and the OECD, represented herein by its Deputy Secretary-General, hereby agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

Objective

SECTION 1.01. The general objective of this Agreement is to strengthen ties between the OECD and IFAD in the spheres of analysis, dialogue and development policies (specifically in the rural sector), with a view to making the partnership between the Parties more effective by integrating existing areas of cooperation into a common framework.

ARTICLE II

Scope of Cooperation

SECTION 2.01. The Parties shall establish cooperation and partnership linkages aimed at fostering the attainment of their common objectives and, through enhanced dialogue on technical, institutional and financial aspects of their programmes and pooling of their efforts, at developing complementarity and synergy among interventions by the two institutions.

SECTION 2.02. With due regard to respecting the individual rules and regulations of each Party and subject to the availability of appropriate resources, cooperation between the Parties shall focus on:

- (a) regional and international policies that affect decision-making on matters relating to rural development and rural poverty reduction;
- (b) participation in workshops to reflect on issues associated with the main concerns of the Parties;
- (c) exchange of information;
- (d) cofinancing of programmes and projects; and
- (e) exchange of personnel. IFAD and the OECD shall encourage the secondment or temporary assignment of personnel from one organization to the other to support implementation of their cooperation.

SECTION 2.03. IFAD and the OECD shall cooperate under the present Agreement to pursue and, to the extent possible, strengthen the objective of reducing poverty by way of their operations in the poorest countries and regions, especially in sub-Saharan Africa and other regions of specific interest to the two institutions.

SECTION 2.04. The Parties shall endeavour to strengthen the impact of the organizations at the country level and to ensure expanded participation in coordination and cooperation forums, such as the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and the poverty reduction strategy papers.

ARTICLE III

Cooperation Modalities

SECTION 3.01. The Parties shall consult each other and exchange views and information on a systematic and continuous basis on matters of common interest so that each Party may be informed of the projects and activities of the other.

SECTION 3.02. Activities carried out under this Agreement shall be the subject of specific agreements defining, inter alia, the objectives, actions to be undertaken, means adopted, and the financial, material and staffing contributions of each Party.

SECTION 3.03. The implementation of this Agreement shall be coordinated by an authorized representative of each of the two Parties, duly appointed by the authorities of IFAD and the OECD.

ARTICLE IV

Information and Dialogue

SECTION 4.01. The Parties shall engage in dialogue on:

- (a) common strategies to be pursued;
- (b) identification of programmes and projects to be formulated jointly;
- (c) matters related to development, especially rural development and rural poverty reduction, including the design of new methods for intervention, partnership and cofinancing;
- (d) the frequency, dates and venues of meetings to engage in such dialogue;

- (e) steps taken by each of the Parties to ensure coordination of the activities to be carried out under this Agreement.

SECTION 4.02. Each Party shall inform the other of the projects it intends to launch or collaborate in that may be of interest to the other Party. The possible participation of the other Party in such projects would be considered at this stage.

SECTION 4.03. All activities carried out by one of the Parties under this Agreement should be compatible with the mandate, policies and criteria of the other Party.

SECTION 4.04. All information furnished by one of the Parties to the other under this Agreement shall be confidential and may only be used for the purpose for which it was provided.

ARTICLE V

Administrative and Financial Considerations

SECTION 5.01. The Parties shall take, by mutual agreement, the appropriate legal, administrative and financial measures for the planning, programming, financing, execution, monitoring, accounting and audit of operations carried out under this Agreement.

SECTION 5.02. The OECD and IFAD shall endeavour to mobilize additional funds to finance activities and services to implement the present Agreement and other initiatives as may be agreed by the Parties. Such funds shall be made available under terms and conditions that shall be defined in a separate agreement between the Party(ies) concerned and the Party granting the financing.

ARTICLE VI

Settlement of Disagreements and Disputes, Termination

SECTION 6.01. Should an event occur that is of such a nature as to prevent either of the Parties from executing any of its obligations hereunder or that would prevent such obligation from being fully executed or from attaining its objective, the Parties shall consult each other promptly to find a solution. Any dispute between the Parties is to be settled by amicable means.

SECTION 6.02. The present Agreement is of indefinite duration. It may be terminated by either of the Parties upon written notification provided to the other three months in advance.

ARTICLE VII

Final Provisions

SECTION 7.01. Any pertinent matter not specifically addressed herein shall be settled in a manner acceptable to both Parties and, in this regard, each Party shall give constructive consideration to any proposal put forward by the other.

SECTION 7.02. The Parties shall consult each other on any amendment either may request to the present Agreement. Any such amendment shall be made in writing and shall become effective after signature by both Parties.

SECTION 7.03. All notifications or requests made pursuant to this Agreement shall be made in writing. All notifications or requests are deemed to have been duly addressed upon their delivery in person, by letter or by facsimile to the Party to which they are to be addressed, at the addresses specified below or at such other address as said Party shall have specified in writing to the Party presenting such notification or request.

For the OECD:

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
2 rue André Pascal
75775 Paris Cedex 16
France

Fax number: (+33 1) 44 30 62 71

For IFAD:

International Fund for Agricultural Development
Via del Serafico, 107
00142 Rome
Italy

Fax number: (3906) 504 3463

SECTION 7.04. The present Agreement, signed in four originals in French, each of equal authenticity, shall enter into effect on the date indicated on the first page after signature by the two Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties, acting through their duly authorized representatives, have signed the present Agreement.

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Signed by: _____ (Lennart Båge)
President

ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC
CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Signed by: _____ (Herwig Schlögl)
Deputy Secretary-General

